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3 More Officials Quit CIA Top Command Of Accused Division Out

STAT more top officials
assigned from the Central Intelligence Agency's counterintelligence division, which has been named in published reports as conducting domestic spying.

Their resignations combined with that of James J. Angleton, chief of CIA's counterintelligence division, removes the entire top command of the division.

The men resigning are: Raymond Rocca, 57, Angleton's deputy; William J. Hood, 54, executive officer; and Newton S. Miller, 48, chief of operations.

All three men confirmed they were resigning, but insisted they were doing so to take advantage of extra retirement benefits available to persons who leave the government before the end of the year.

The agency's mandatory retirement age is 65, though it urges its personnel to leave earlier.

CIA Director William E. Colby acknowledged the resignations last night, and also attributed them to the enhanced retirement benefits. He refused to comment on whether the departures were related to the domestic charges.

Several sources, however, said the resignations stemmed from three factors other than retirement benefits, the Associated Press reported. One source said allegations of domestic spying played a role in the resignations.

Several sources said the counterintelligence division had two major policy disagreements with Colby and higher policy officials, the wire service said.

The disagreements were said to be over interpretation of events and intentions in the Soviet bloc and over Colby's policy of making the agency more open to criticism in court.

terintelligence were more suspicious of Russian moves toward detente than their superiors and felt Colby's openness had damaged the agency.

According to one source, the counterintelligence staff was particularly upset when Colby debated Daniel Ellsberg, who leaked the Pentagon Papers, at a panel sponsored by a private group critical of the CIA.

Angleton's resignation was requested by Colby 10 days ago. Angleton has denied that his operation conducted any illegal domestic intelligence gathering.

Sen. William Proxmire (D-Wis.) said yesterday that he has information that the CIA spied on American citizens in this country, engaged in breaking and entering and in wiretapping.

The charges that the CIA breached legal prohibitions intended to confine its operations to foreign intelligence, Proxmire said, "are accurate and correct" according to "very reliable people" who are his private sources.

Proxmire said in a television interview ("Issues and Answers"—ABC, WMAL)—that he independently verified to his satisfaction the allegations initially published by The New York Times on Dec. 22. He said his information confirms that CIA files contain names of 10,000 Americans who "had been under investigation by the CIA," that the agency engaged in domestic "surveillances," in "breaking and entering" and "wiretaps" of Americans.

When the initial charges were aired a week earlier, Proxmire called for the resignation of Richard M. Helms, who was CIA director from 1966 to 1973. This is the period when the alleged domestic spying took place, primarily among opponents of the war in Vietnam. Helms, presently ambassador to Iran, "categorically denied" last week that the CIA, when he headed it, "conducted illegal domestic operations against antiwar activists or dissidents or that any unit to do so was created" during his service as director.

In an additional report yesterday, The New York Times said a former CIA agent, not identified by name, said New York in the late 1960s was a center of spying on radical groups. Agent, working for the CIA's Domestic Operations Division, the account said, infiltrated radical organizations and participated in

break-ins and wiretapping. The Times' source said he received from the CIA "more than 40" psychological assessments of radical leaders to assist in surveillance of the targeted groups.

Other sources said yesterday that the CIA had at least two sections operating on the domestic scene: a Domestic Contact Service, until recently relatively "overt" by CIA standards, collecting foreign intelligence from businessmen, students and others traveling abroad, and the clandestine Domestic Operations Division. The latter network was originally established with offices in many cities to collect foreign intelligence inside the United States from emigrant groups and other sources and to coordinate CIA "cover" organizations. It allegedly expanded into the activities now under challenge.

This may be the basis for Helms' contention that no unit "was created" for the purpose of spying on antiwar activists and his denial that the CIA "conducted illegal domestic operations" for that purpose. It is the standard CIA contention that nothing it does is illegal, on grounds that it acts only on the basis of authorizations by the President or the National Security Council, as permitted by its charter.

In his TV appearance, Proxmire called on Congress to establish "an independent prosecutor with subpoena powers" to establish the facts and "prosecute every illegal action by CIA agents past or present." He also called for a joint Senate-House committee to oversee the CIA effectively, and for a ban on all covert CIA operations, "the so-called paramilitary activity, the murders, the kidnaping, that kind of thing; to destabilize, overthrow governments."

Rep. Claude Pepper (D-Fla.) said in Miami yesterday that CIA Director Colby assured him yesterday that there was no foundation to a Time magazine report that Pepper was spied on by the CIA.

That report said that Pepper, Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas, former Rep. Cornelius Gallagher (D-N.J.) and the late Sen. Edward Long (D-Mo.) all came under CIA scrutiny.

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make any comment yesterday.

President Ford has said through his spokesman at Vail, Colo., where he is spending the holidays, that he will not make decisions on a 50-page report about the allegations concerning the CIA, submitted by Colby, until he meets with senior officials after his return to Washington on Thursday. The President is scheduled to confer with Colby, Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger, Defense Secretary James R. Schlesinger, and others. Former CIA Director Helms is also expected in Washington at that time.